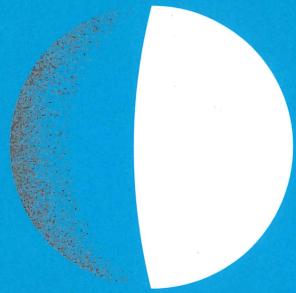


ESPRIT
ORCHESTRA
2009-2010
CONCERT SEASON

DIAMETRIC FORCES

WWW.ESPRITORCHESTRA.COM

ALEX PAUK
Music Director and
Conductor



SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2009

8:00 p.m.: Concert 7:15 p.m.: Pre-concert talk
Koerner Hall in the TELUS Centre for
Performance and Learning at
The Royal Conservatory
(273 Bloor St. West; ½ block west of Avenue Road)

Tickets: **416.408.0208**
or [HTTP://PERFORMANCE.RCMUSIC.CA](http://PERFORMANCE.RCMUSIC.CA)

ALEX PAUK conductor
EVIE MARK AND AKINISIE SIVUARAPIK
Inuit throat singers

TAKE THE DOG SLED

Programme:

R. MURRAY SCHAFER	North/White (for orchestra with snowmobile)
ALEXINA LOUIE	Take the Dog Sled (for two Inuit throat singers & ensemble)
GYÖRGY LIGETI	Atmosphères
TORU TAKEMITSU	Green (November Steps II)

Two highly evocative, musically graphic depictions draw our attention to the magnitude and spirit of Canada's Northern frontier. Louie's work, combining Inuit throat singing with Western musical language, provides insight into Inuit life and its relationship to nature in the Arctic. Schafer's *North/White* is the composer's highly personal statement on how industrial forces impact on Canada's Northern mythology. Ligeti's *Atmosphères*, made famous in the soundtrack of the film *2001: A Space Odyssey*, draws us into the listening environment of this concert which includes Takemitsu's *Green*, a dream evoking the music of Debussy as well as the opulence of a mountain forest and garden.

Extend The Experience:

An extraordinary selection of enhanced programming surrounds the concert date. Some of the experiences available to you include throat-singing workshops, pre-concert lectures, composer meet-and-greets and movie screenings. Visit www.espritorchestra.com after November 1st for a full list of the extending programming.

This concert is sponsored by the **Koerner Foundation**.

Esprit Orchestra programming is subject to change without notice.



In addition to our annual *New Wave Composers Festival* featuring emerging composers from Canada and abroad, Esprit also reaches out to the community through various education programs.

Toward a Living Art brings composers together with high school music students as well as those from the general student population. Students are invited into the concert hall for matinee performances and lectures that help broaden their understanding of contemporary music. *Toward a Living Art* concerts are free to students.

Creative Sparks is a mentoring and artistic leadership project in new music creation, performance and appreciation that embraces young people of varying social backgrounds and levels of artistic ability. It provides access and hands-on experience for developing artistic skills and appreciation of our contemporary cultural environment.

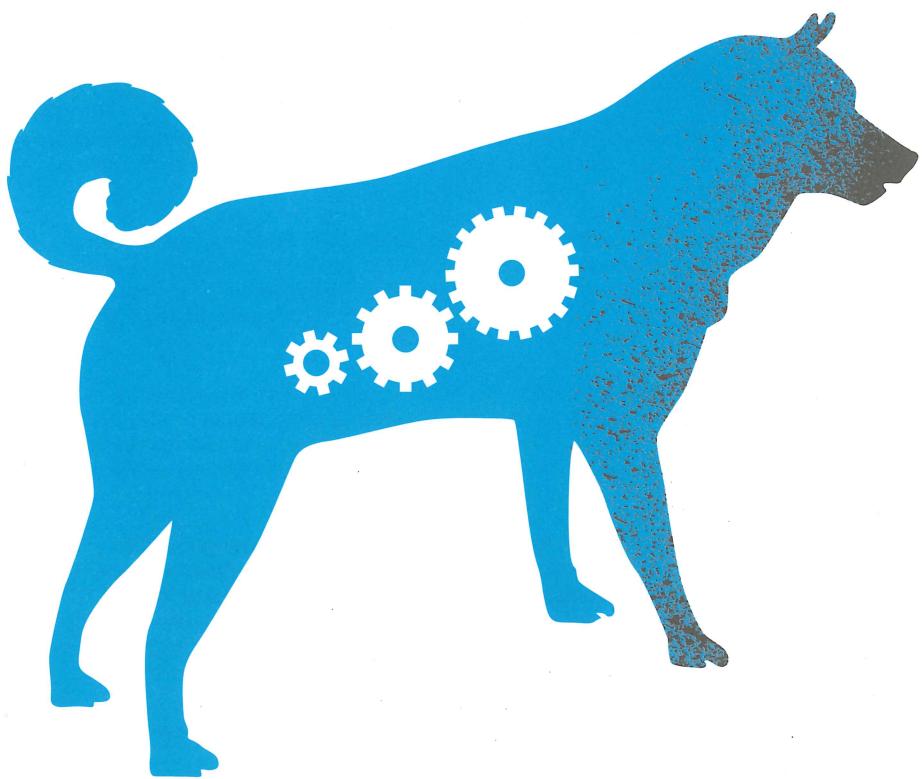
This season we'll launch a pilot project called *Criss-Cross* combining Esprit's composers and musicians with artists from other disciplines. Together they will produce multi-disciplinary and multi-media works that have a profound impact in the community.

Coffee Chats and public forums will take place throughout the season.

For more information
on Esprit education and outreach
activities, or to make a donation to
help these programs grow, visit

WWW.ESPRITORCHESTRA.COM

or call **416.815.7887**.



And it begins

Aiming for innovative, imaginative and uncommon programming, I've combined themes and musical trends so that Esprit's concerts go to the heart of life – challenging, enlightening and entertaining – through a blend of risk taking, and the presentation of recent masterpieces. Nothing is as exhilarating as having you with us to share a composer's excitement in hearing a piece for the first time. Equally powerful is the sense of immediacy that comes when today's acknowledged works of brilliance connect and expand a listener's musical horizons. Esprit's 27 years of devotion come from a love of playing in the realm of new sonic treasures – a realm in which cultural, social and spiritual forces revitalize orchestral life.

Our first two concerts take place in the stunning new Koerner Hall, a perfect venue not only for the very large orchestra of Ligeti's *Atmosphères*, but also for the intimacy of Inuit throat singers performing with a small ensemble of Esprit players. We're thrilled to celebrate the genius of R. Murray Schafer with a composition of his featured in every concert, and the visit of Krzysztof Penderecki to Toronto marks a grand occasion for Esprit's focus on his music. Koerner Hall is sure to be one of the hottest centres for music in the world and we're thrilled to be part of the excitement with sponsorship of our first two concerts by the Koerner Foundation. We'll return to the Jane Mallett Theatre for an entire program of Canadian music as well as for the last concert of the season, which serves as the grand finale for Esprit's annual *New Wave Composers Festival*. All concerts include dazzling performances by Canadian solo artists, each bringing their own sound spectrum of colours, textures and virtuosity. You won't want to miss any of it.

Sincerely,



ALEX PAUK
Music Director and Conductor

Beyond the concert hall

"I ALWAYS HAVE THE
TRUEST REPRESENTATION
OF MY WORK
WITH
THIS ORCHESTRA".

R. Murray Schafer

SUNDAY, MAY 16, 2010

8:00 p.m.: Concert 7:15 p.m.: Pre-concert talk
Jane Mallett Theatre in the
St. Lawrence Centre for the Arts
(27 Front Street East)

Tickets: 416.366.7723 OR 1.800.708.6754
or WWW.STLC.COM

ALEX PAUK conductor
SHAUNA ROLSTON cello
DONNA BROWN soprano

NO REASON TO PANIC

Programme:

DOUGLAS SCHMIDT

LOUIS ANDRIESSEN

MAYKE NAS

R. MURRAY SCHAFER

Carbon Concerto (for cello and orchestra)*

Vermeer Pictures (concert suite for orchestra from the opera

Writing to Vermeer – arranged by Clark Rundell)

No reason to panic (for wind ensemble and six basses)

Gitanjali (for soprano and orchestra)

Mayke Nas' *No reason to panic*, composed for the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra as an intermission piece while the grand piano was being brought on stage, defines the situation – “large machines and trucks beep when they drive backwards – string players leave the stage - the orchestra goes wild with cries of alarm – No reason to panic!” Andriessen considers his opera *Writing to Vermeer* to be his “delicate, feminine daughter”. Lyrical, with few traces of his neo-primitive signature style, Andriessen’s suite *Vermeer Pictures* produces a time-travelling journey between late Renaissance and jazz. Schmidt's *Carbon Concerto*, written for Shauna Rolston and the carbon fibre cello that she plays on this occasion, again reveals the composer's incisive musical wit. Of all Schafer's works for solo voice, *Gitanjali* (a setting of five poems from Rabindranath Tagore's collection of the same name) is undoubtedly the most ecstatic.

Extend The Experience:

***No Reason to Panic* is the final concert in Esprit's annual *New Wave Composers Festival*. This year's Festival runs from May 10 to 16, 2010. Check www.espritorchestra.com after May 1st for complete details.**

* World premiere

Esprit Orchestra programming is subject to change without notice.

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A	All 4 Concerts <i>Like getting 1 concert for free!</i>	\$ 137	\$ 96	\$ 45
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C	2 Concerts at Jane Mallett Theatre <i>À l'aventure! & No Reason to Panic</i>	\$ 76	\$ 54	\$ 25
D	2 Sunday Concerts <i>Take the Dog Sled & No Reason to Panic</i>	\$ 76	\$ 54	\$ 25
E	2 Weekday Concerts <i>À l'aventure! & Penderecki Plus!</i>	\$ 76	\$ 54	\$ 25
	Or choose one individual concert <i>See concert pages in this brochure for venue contact information</i>	\$ 43	\$ 32	\$ 15

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To purchase a 4- or 2-concert package, call **416.366.7723** or **1.800.708.6754**

Or complete the order form on the right and mail to St. Lawrence Centre for the Arts, Subscription Office (Esprit), 27 Front Street East, Toronto, ON M5E 1B4

Or take it in person to St. Lawrence Centre Box Office, noon – 6 p.m., Mon. to Sat.

St. Lawrence Centre for the Arts collects ticket fees on behalf of Esprit Orchestra but cannot be responsible for refunds should performances be cancelled. Each ticket includes a \$2.65 Capital Improvement Fund surcharge. Should an artist be unable to appear, Esprit Orchestra reserves the right to make arrangements for substitute performers.

St. LAWRENCE CENTRE FOR THE ARTS

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 31ST, 2010

8:00 p.m.: Concert 7:15 p.m.: Pre-concert talk
Jane Mallett Theatre in the
St. Lawrence Centre for the Arts
(27 Front Street East)

*Tickets: 416.366.7723 OR 1.800.708.6754
or WWW.STLC.COM*

ALEX PAUK conductor
ROBERTAITKEN flute
ERIKA RAUM violin

À L'AVENTURE!

Programme:

OMAR DANIEL	Violin Concerto*
JOSÉ EVANGELISTA	Concerto con brio (for strings)
DENIS GOUGEON	À l'aventure!
R. MURRAY SCHAFER	Flute Concerto

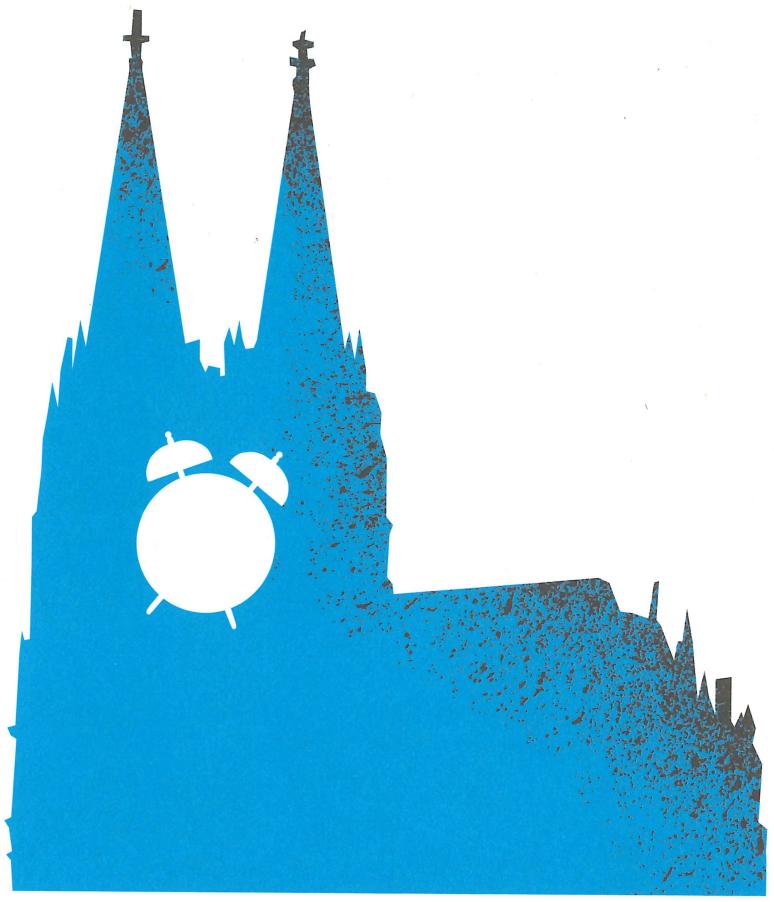
This all-Canadian concert opens with Gougeon's *À l'aventure!* carrying listeners away in a whirlwind of musical adventures. This leads naturally to Robert Aitken's virtuosity as soloist in Schafer's dramatic *Flute Concerto*. The world premiere of Daniel's *Violin Concerto*, composed specially for his wife, violinist Erika Raum, uses ancient Estonian Runo-songs (Regilaulud) as source material. This pre-Christian folk idiom, found in enclaves throughout the Balto-Finnic region of Europe, is a rich and complex musical tradition still practiced today. Evangelista's *Concerto con brio*, for string quartet and string orchestra, features Esprit's principal string players in the quartet. This concerto, like the music of Vivaldi that inspired it, has immediacy, energy, imagination and a disarming simplicity.

Extend The Experience:

In the week prior to this concert, the public will be invited to join Esprit soloists and composers at an informal informative *Coffee Chat*. Space at this popular FREE event will be limited. Please visit www.espritorchestra.com closer to March for RSVP details.

* World premiere

Esprit Orchestra programming is subject to change without notice.



FRIDAY, JANUARY 29TH, 2010

8:00 p.m.: Concert 7:15 p.m.: Pre-concert talk
Koerner Hall in the TELUS Centre for
Performance and Learning at
The Royal Conservatory
(273 Bloor St. West; ½ block west of Avenue Road)

Tickets: 416.408.0208
or [HTTP://PERFORMANCE.RCMUSIC.CA](http://PERFORMANCE.RCMUSIC.CA)

ALEX PAUK conductor

KRZYSZTOF PENDERECKI visiting composer
SHAUNA ROLSTON, ROMAN BORYS, PAUL WIDNER cello

STUART LAUGHTON trumpet

baritone TBA

PENDERECKI PLUS!

Programme:

KRZYSZTOF PENDERECKI

R. MURRAY SCHAFER

KRZYSZTOF PENDERECKI

JOHN ADAMS

Concerto Grosso (for three cellos and orchestra)

The Falcon's Trumpet

Threnody (To the Victims of Hiroshima)

Batter my heart, three person'd God

(for baritone and orchestra – from the opera Dr. Atomic)

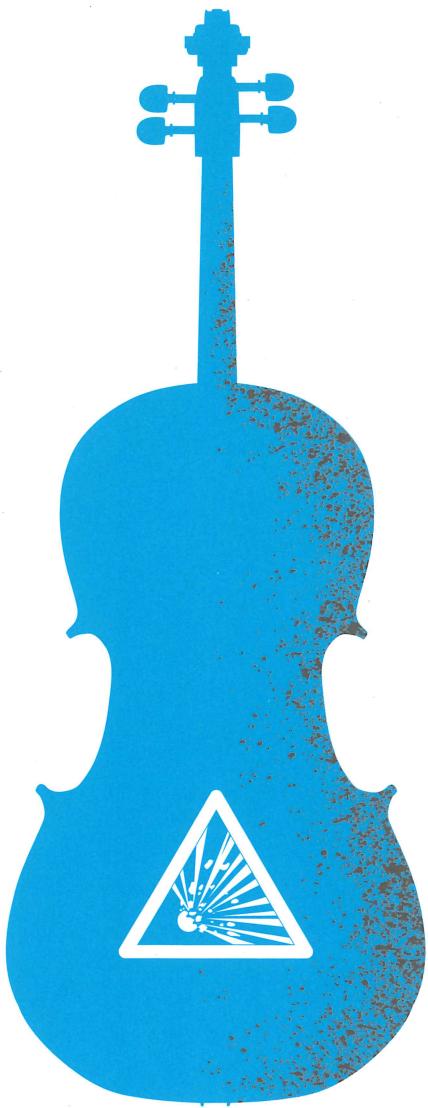
This concert honours our Polish guest composer Penderecki, perhaps the most widely performed composer of our time, and reflects two periods in his stylistic evolution. *Threnody* is the ultimate evocation of the 1960s avant-garde, while the *Concerto Grosso* reveals the transformation of his distinctive voice through to the present. An aria from Adams' opera *Dr. Atomic*, dealing with the creation of the atomic bomb, serves as a musical and historical counterpoint to the *Threnody*. Schafer's soaring concerto, *The Falcon's Trumpet*, provides the concert with an enhanced sense of occasion.

Extend The Experience:

Penderecki Plus! is part of the annual New Music Festival at the University of Toronto's Faculty of Music. For a full listing of Festival events from January 25th to 31st, 2010 visit www.music.utoronto.ca/events.

This concert is sponsored by the **Koerner Foundation**.

Esprit Orchestra programming is subject to change without notice.



Order Form

ESPRIT ORCHESTRA 2009-10 SUBSCRIPTION SERIES

To retain your past seats, subscriptions must be renewed by October 30, 2009.

*Please note that the concerts scheduled for November 15, 2009 and January 29, 2010 will be held in Koerner Hall at the Royal Conservatory of Music (273 Bloor Street West, Toronto).

The concerts scheduled for March 31, 2010 and May 16, 2010 will be held in the Jane Mallett Theatre at the St. Lawrence Centre for the Arts (27 Front Street East, Toronto).

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